The Pacific

81st Year | MARCH, 1931 | No. 3

Evangelistic Institutes

The Conference Committee on Evangelism, which consists of Rev. R. C. Day, Rev. G. E. Atkinson, Rev. B. M. Palmer, Rev. C. H. Stevens, Rev. H. H. Wolford and Rev. W B. Williams, met with the Superintendent during the Pastors' Conference and outlined a plan for institutes on Evangelism. The day following, when fifty of our Congregational pastors were together for luncheon, the committee presented its plan and the pastors voted for it 100 per cent. A team was organized, consisting of Prof. George T. Tolson, D. D., of the Pacific School of Religion, Rev. Francis J. Van Horn, D. D., First Congregational Church, Oakland, Mr. Frank S. Briggs, a layman from Sacramento, and the Superintendent. A list of questions for discussion was mailed to all of the pastors, together with the schedule for the institutes.

The first gathering was held at the First Congregational Church, Oakland, on Monday, the 23rd; the second at the First Congregational Church, San Jose, on Tuesday, the 24th; the third was at the First Congregational Church, Fresno, Wednesday, the 25th, and the last at the Pioneer Church, Sacramento, Thursday, the 26th.

On each occasion the pastors who had gathered spent about six hours together, from ten in the morning to about four in the afternoon, with a brief time out for luncheon. Dr. Van Horn led the devotional services, Prof. Tolson conducted discussions on the basis of the new Evangelism. Dr. Van Horn skillfully and forcefully drew out the Evangelistic message which ministers are able to present from their own experience. Mr. Briggs spoke on a layman's place in personal evangelism, and Superintendent Gill spoke of practical methods for getting people to Christ and the Church.

The discussions were absolutely frank and fearless, and letters since the series have indicated a widespread gratitude for the very profitable day.

The Mission Park Church of San Francisco has sold its property at 19th and Dolores, to the Norwegian Lutherans. After certain equities of the Congregational Church Building Society were taken care of, the entire balance was deposited with the Conference for investment. By the terms of this agreement, the church is not to withdraw any part of this sum except for building purposes. During the period the capital sum is held by the Conference, the church will receive the income for the current expenses of the United Church.

Official reports show that under Canadian prohibition manufacture of beer declined 34 per cent, its consumption 29 per cent; manufacture of spirits 45 per cent, consumption 76 per cent, and convictions for drunkenness 58 per cent. Prohibition was repealed. Manufacture of beer increased 58 per cent, consumption 52 per cent; manufacture of spirits 202 per cent, consumption 98 per cent, and alcoholic deaths 87 per cent.—Official report of Minister of Trade, Ottawa, 1929.

STEPS IN DISCIPLESHIP

Below is the substance of the address given at the recent Institutes on Evangelism and is printed in response to requests:

The criticism frequently comes to a modern minister that our present day Evangelism is altogether too shallow, that it is not enough to ask men to declare their allegiance to Jesus Christ by joining the church—that we do not have an adequate substitute for the old-time conversion. It is perfectly true that joining the church is not enough, but was the old-time conversion enough? Conversion means a changing of a man's purposes and manner of living, and sometimes the folks who were surest of their conversions were just as crooked and un-Christian in their daily living as some of the folks today who do not profess the emotional experience of conversion. "By their fruits, ye shall know them."

For us Congregationalists, joining the church means taking the first step in following Jesus. We do not ask people to give assent to a creed. We believe there is room within a church for a difference in matters of belief, just as there is room in a family for such differences. We put the basis of church membership just where Jesus put the basis of Discipleship. He did not ask men what they believed, He said: "Follow Me." When we say that joining the church means simply to begin following Jesus, we are not letting down the bars and making the Christian life easy. Following Jesus is a small thing to say, but of all things it is the hardest to do. When we join the church it does not mean that all of a sudden, in the twinkling of an eye, we have become like Jesus. If Discipleship meant being like Jesus, none of us could call ourselves Christian. What it does mean is that the first step has been taken.

Church membership does not stand at the end of the making of a Christian character, but at the beginning. As has been often said, the church is not an exhibition gallery of perfect character, but a workshop in which we are engaged in the business of making character. Therefore, I hold that every person who can honestly say: It is my desire to become a follower of Jesus Christ, and I regard the church as a help in that process, has a right to the fellowship of the church, and we have the responsibility to enlist and accept him.

But, are not our churches already too large? is being asked by a good many people today. Do we not need fewer numbers and greater consecration? We need greater consecration—the church has always needed that. The difficulty today as always is that there is not enough of Christ in the church, but when was there enough of Christ in the church? Certainly not in His own time, nor in the time of Paul, nor in the day of the great controversies, nor in the middle ages, nor even in the day of the fundamentalists. There is not enough of Christ in any church or any of us, but that does not arise because our churches are too large. Whatever may be said about the few large churches, most of our churches are pitifully small. Little struggling groups of people, always limited by budget and debt, using up all their energy in keeping the wheels in motion. If smallness were an aid to spirituality, God knows we ought to be flaming apostles of our Gospel. We are small enough, and have been small long enough.

For my own part I have no immediate fear of our churches becoming too large, and I do not believe that on an average there is any less of spirituality in the members of our large churches than in that of our small ones. Let us have no hesitancy, therefore, in urging our lay people and ministers to redouble efforts and to put on programs which will result in great ingatherings of the people for our churches. Only *let the ministers be careful to instruct everyone who comes that this is but the* first step *in the business of being a follower of Jesus Christ.*

How can we call ourselves Christian if we are not extending the influence of our churches by means of evangelism? Take evangelism and missions out of Christ, out of Paul, out of our present day churches, and the heart has been taken out. Christianity is a way of life, and part of that way is the winning of others to that life. Not to be eagerly solicitous about the Christian life of others is to be something less than Christian. To be Christian is to leave the ninety and nine that are safe in the fold and go out into the wilderness to find the one that is lost.

HARLEY H. GILL.

SUCCESS TO HIM

We are happy to announce that Dr. W. J. Minchin is now proprietor of a book shop at 2123 Kittridge Street, Berkeley.

SPECIAL NOTICE

A large family Bible, suitable for pulpit use, may be had by some small church upon application to the Conference office.

Young People at Asilomar

Our Young People's Conference will be held at Asilomar this summer from August 1 to 8. The provisional program includes the following courses and faculty: "What Can a Man Believe?" Dr. Gail Cleland; "The Christian Family," Dr. Lawrence Wilson; "The Social Teachings of Jesus," Dr. T. T. Giffen; "Old Testament," Dr. Noel J. Breed; "Turkey Today," Miss Lucille Day; "The Spirit of Missions," Dr. Hugh Vernon White; "Social and Recreational Programs," Mr. Clifford Simpson; "Program Building," Dr. Harry Thomas Stock, Young People's secretary for the Congregational Education Society.

Parallel courses will be given in each of the above subjects for high school and college-age groups. In addition a course or two will be given for such adults as may attend the Conference. One of these courses for adults will be given by Dr. Stock on "The Program of Religious Education in the Local Church."

The Young People's Conference this year is held entirely separate from the Adult Conference, which comes at a different time and place. We have been fortunate in obtaining the sole use of the grounds for this year. Whether we can enjoy this privilege in future years will be determined by the size of our Conference this year. All our Young People's groups and their leaders are urged to plan early to send a large and enthusiastic delegation to Asilomar.

Administrative officers of the Conference are as follows: Director, Dr. R. C. Waddell; Dean of Men, Rev. James H. Price; Dean of Women, Mrs. L. M. Drury; Chaplain, Dr. Norman B. Henderson; Recreational Leader, Mr. Clifford Simpson.

Mr. Price is Promotional Director for the Conference, and it is his intention to visit as widely as possible among our societies between now and the Conference date.

According to the U. S. Census reports on mental diseases 10.1 per cent of all admission to psychopathic hospitals in 1910 (wet) were for alcoholic psychosis. In 1922 (dry) only 3.7 per cent of the admissions were alcoholics. — U. S. Bureau of Census, "Patients in Hospitals for Mental Diseases," 1923, page 257.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 16—Spring meeting Federation of Congregational Women, Broadmoor Church, San Leandro.

April 23-26 — Northern California Council of Religious Education. State Convention, Fresno.

June 25 - July 2 — National Council of Congregational Churches. Seattle, Washington.

July 6 - 15 — Missionary Education Movement Conference, Asilomar.

July 11-16 — International Christian Endeavor Convention. San Francisco.

August 1-8 — Congregational Young People's Conference. Asilomar.

October 20-22—Northern California Congregational Conference. Annual meeting. Place to be announced later.

The Pacific

Established 1851

Entered as Second-Class Matter at the San Francisco Post Office

Subscription, 25 cents in Advance

Published monthly (except July and August) by the Northern California Congregational Conference, 421 Phelan Building, 760 Market Street, San Francisco.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided in section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized September 11, 1923.

Address all communications and checks to THE PACIFIC, 421 Phelan Bldg.

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FIFTY YEARS OF CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR—1881 - 1931

Rev. George E. Atkinson, Conference Representative to Christian Endeavor Union

The history of the past half century cannot be written without inscribing a long chapter to the story of the Christian Endeavor movement. For it deals with unseen forces and great personalities. The story of "C. E." is not so much of calendars as conquests! A half century ago young people might have been seen in church, but they were not heard very much! Now they are managing quite a lot of the church activities, and doing much of it pretty well, too, in spite of past traditions and theories.

Dr. Frances E.—"Father Endeavor"—Clark's name may well be revered, for he started a world-wide organization whose service has been of inestimable value to all denominations. We as Congregationalists are proud of the gift our church gave to the world when the first "Christian Endeavor" Society was organized in Williston, Maine, in 1881. The first Junior "C.E." Society was organized in First Church, Berkeley, California, in 1883—and the first lad to sign the Junior Endeavor pledge in Iowa, afterwards became the pastor of the church where Junior C. E. was born—Raymond C. Brooks! Honolulu had the first society outside the United States—this in 1884. Today there are Christian Endeavor Societies in ALL denominations, in 112 lands, countries or dominions; with 80,113 societies and over 4,000,000 members. Christian Endeavor has three lusty children: The Lutheran League, organized in 1888; the Epworth League, 1889; the "Baptist Young People's Union," 1891, but each of these denominations have C. E. societies within their ranks.

There are great possibilities in the Christian Endeavor movement, as history proves. That the organization needs wide and wise adaptation is conceded by all. That it has certain great values which ought not to be overlooked is likewise true. The four forms of the pledge as now offered, and the almost limitless scope of committee work ,allow opportunity for a type of organization which can fit most emergencies. The society must earnestly relate itself to the increased knowledge and changing demands of today. The past few years have been a time of transition and change. Churches, Sunday schools, young people's movements and all religious education has been influenced. The expression of religious life, the amusements deemed proper, all have undergone revision. I believe there is a great opportunity today for a religious organization whose chief end is outspoken devotion to CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH as an expression of young people's service to humanity.

As one of the oldest Christian Endeavorers in California—in point of membership, joining in the fall of 1883—I am glad to give praise to the movement which helped me to self-expression in earlier years, and opportunities for service later which, as I look back, I feel I would not have omitted from my life. I am proud of the group of young people in every Endeavor Society I have had as pastor. I believe in the varied forms of activity offered whereby the young people have the expression of their own will in management and service. I would rejoice if every applicant for church membership has as clear-cut ideas of service and religious work as do most of my young people! A delightful thing about the founder of Christian Endeavor was his constant challenging us with "goals" or "aims." His successor did likewise! What a CHALLENGE Dan Poling hurled at the Young People of the World at Berlin last summer! So with our Golden Anniversary let us face the sunrising that we may have the abiding joy of progress. Milestones are inspiring things—to leave behind us! Then they do not become millstones. Let us ever keep our keen sense of responsibility for the needs of the new day, and then we shall make progress and not be dragged down to the level of past deeds.

"THE BEST IS YET TO BE."

ONE OF OUR PROJECTS

DOSHISHA GIRLS

One day early in the morning, Frances Clapp took the train from Kyoto for the Western Coast of Japan. It was a delightful four hour trip. At the end of her journey, she found one of her senior girls waiting for her. Quite true to Japanese courtesy, her pupil presented her with a beautifully written program in English with every detail of the visit minutely outlined.

All of Miss Clapp's pupils do not belong to the upper classes of society. One girl comes from a little village where she is the only Christian and the first woman to go away to college. In one letter she wrote: "I worked hard in the field or at home as they did. In my country the college student is only I. They had thought the college student is an extraordinary man, and should be idle always. But they looked at me and said, 'O, We must work!' I was not a preacher but I had as my motto the holy phrase, 'Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong. Let all your things be done with charity.' When it grew dark the children used to cry or to quarrel, because their parents did not come from the fields yet, and they were bothered by mosquitoes. I gathered them and told them the story (of Jesus) and sang with them so their voices made a peaceful village."

Miss Mary Coxhead reports an average church attendance of 40 in the Village Church at Fort Bidwell, and in the Indian Church of 17, with a total of 58 pastoral calls. Prayer meeting is held once a week at the village church. The Indian children come regularly for a meeting of the "Children's Library," where they read and hear stories and have some refreshments. More clothes for the Indians are needed, as well as books for the children.

EXTRACT FROM THEME WRITTEN BY A DOSHISHA JUNIOR COLLEGE GIRL

"When I was in High School I knew nothing about Christianity. There was no opportunity to learn about it. But I felt that I must have some real trustworthy faith. In my home town there is no church, and Buddhism is strong. My family all are Buddhists. However I could not find real love and purity in the formalism of Buddhism, so I came to Doshisha.

"I knew nothing about Christianity. Here I prayed for the first time since I was born. At first it seemed very strange but I continued to pray. When in Matthew I read "Love your enemies and pray for them that persecute you" I felt that I had found what I had been looking for and I was exceedingly happy. Also the story of the Good Samaritan is one which I can never forget.

"I realize that my religion still lacks much; that it is as yet only a matter of talk, and that it must be put into practice. We must become the Good Samaritans who will bind up the wounds of those in need in our society today."

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES

Rev. Henry Stauffer of Antioch is using a half-hour of the regular Christian Endeavor meeting for the instruction of those who expect to join the church at Easter.

Mr. and Mrs. James E. Boyd have been at work at Fruitvale a little over one month. Already congregations have increased and a new young people's forum has been formed. On February 7, 23 persons cooperated in a thorough cleaning of the building. The choir is now in active preparation for Easter.

Rev. Jessie Getty Heath of Salida has recently placed one hundred copies ple's forum has been formed. On Feb- of Prayer in the home of her people. The attendance at the monthly Sunday evening services has been much better than formerly, when the meeting was held every Sunday night.

Rev. Horton Colbert of Alturas is speaking during Lent on "Beliefs that Matter," using the following subjects: The Importance of Belief; Man: A Sacred Being; God: The Father; The Bible: Source of Inspiration; The Church: Harbor of Souls; The Flower of Defeat; Life Eternal.

Rev. Charles H. Hudson, pastor at Eureka, announces that a special Easter offering is to be made for Conference Benevolences, and asks his people to forego some luxury that substantial gifts may be presented at the altar during the Easter service. A canvass for new members is under way.

Pilgrim Church, Oakland, reports the largest attendance since last Easter, the closing Sunday of February. Rev. Charles H. Cleaves, the pastor, is using such subjects as the following: The Eternal Presence, the Gospel Focus, Being a Christian Today, Life Beautiful, Christ Triumphant.

Prof. C. C. Clark, of Yale, who has been on the Committee on Discipline since 1910, states "Prohibition has been a great thing for Yale. The present situation in regard to liquor as compared with the situation in the old times is as day compared to night."

ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Annual Convention of the Council will be held in Fresno, April 23-26, 1931. In announcing the program, the executive secretary, Dr. James Asa White, says:

"There is a conviction among us that, without lessening our interest in method, serious consideration should be given to 'content.' This is the central idea in building the program for the next annual convention of the Northern California Council of Religious Education meeting in Fresno. Such a plan calls for a very definite study of the Objectives of Religious Education as set forth by the International Council. Speakers are to be invited who are capable of making a real contribution to the cause of religious education in Northern California."

The questions around which discussion of the seven Objectives of Religious Education will center are as follows:

1. Does it lead the pupil into a personal relationship with God?
2. Does it develop in the pupil a growing appreciation of Jesus as Friend and Helper? (Evangelism.)
3. Does it lead to a progressive development of character in harmony with the ideals of Jesus?
4. Does it lead the pupil to contribute willingly and joyously to the happiness of his home and community? (Social outreach of Christianity.)
5. Does it develop the desire to have a part in the life and work of the church?
6. Does it develop a Christian interpretation of life in such a way that the pupil comes to understand the plan of a loving Father for the world and his part in the carrying out of this plan? (Missions.)
7. Does it introduce the children to biblical materials in such a way as to create a love for them, and does it develop an appreciation for other appropriate material? (The place of the Bible in Religious Education.)

It is hoped that it will be possible to have the addresses on these seven questions, which will be given by leading men of the various denominations, printed in a small book, for the use of local groups of teachers, possibly for discussion at teachers' meetings. To insure this publication, it will be necessary that 500 copies, at a special price of $1.00, be ordered before the meeting. After publication, the price will be $1.25.

Registration — The registration fee for the convention will be $1.00. This will admit delegates to all sessions of the convention and the conferences.

Entertainment—For delegates who desire to stay over night during the convention, Fresno people will provide bed and breakfast, but reservations must be made in advance. Send application for entertainment to Rev. C. S. Crowder c-o Fresno Council of Churches, 2120 Kern Street, Fresno. Luncheon and supper will be served at the First Methodist Church at a nominal price.

Delegates—A church may send as many delegates as desired. Do all in your power to get your regular and prospective workers to attend. The convention will be epoch-making. The conferences will be of a very high order.

PACIFIC SCHOOL of RELIGION
PREPARES for the RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS
BERKELEY CALIFORNIA

NEWS FROM CHURCHES AND THEIR LEADERS

The First Congregational Church of Stockton tendered a reception to Dr. and Mrs. H. V. White on Sunday evening, February 22. At the Vesper service the choir, under the direction of Victor Orr, sang Dr. White's favorite cantata "Ruth" by A. R. Gaul. At the close of the service over four hundred members and friends adjourned to the parlors where a delightful tea and reception were held.

Mr. John M. Perry, in behalf of the congregation, presented Dr. and Mrs. White each with a handsome traveling bag. Acting for the College of Pacific Faculty Club, Prof. Paul Schilpp presented them with a beautiful picture of the College Conservatory, Dr. White having been special lecturer at the College. Then the young people of the church presented Dr. White with a book, "The Religious Background of American Culture" by Hall.

Stockton folks are rejoicing in the fact that Mrs. White and the children are not leaving at this time, remaining in Stockton through the summer. Dr. White is returning to California about the latter part of June, to attend the summer quarter at Stanford, where he will complete his work for a Ph. D. degree.

Rev. Tom Watt, for ten years pastor of the Community Church of Williams, California, has been unanimously called to the Park Church, Berkeley. His work began Sunday, March 1. A larger congregation was present than has been in attendance for many months. On Friday, February 27, a fine company of people came together for a family dinner to welcome the new pastor and his wife. Mr. Watt was engaged in Y. M. C. A. work and is naturally very active in community affairs. He will bring strong leadership to the South Berkeley district.

The entire Sunday School of the Guerneville Church has been organized into a missionary society, with a special program each month and an offering for benevolences. The pastor, Rev. James W. Price, raised the Guerneville quota and more for the Red Cross. The Fellowship of Youth entertained 40 members of the Fairfax Fellowship for a Sunday evening, and presented a splendid play and many testimonies on "why religion and the church appeals to me."

Ocean View Church, San Francisco, has already begun repairs on the social hall. The budget for the year is being raised and a class will unite with the church on Easter Sunday. The various organizations of the church are helping a poor family, each organization taking its turn for a week. Mr. James Salmon is the pastor.

The San Carlos Church is the recipient of a piano, given for the primary department of the Sunday schol. The church has a social evening each month. The pastor, Rev. R. B. Cherington, recently gave an illustrated address on California Missions.

Calvary Armenian Church of San Francisco organized a new Sunday School February 1st. The attendance has been regularly increasing. This church is worshipping at Trinity Center.

An institute of vital and modern religion has been planned by the Santa Rosa Church, with visiting clergymen. The subjects and speakers are as follows: Sunday, "The God of Jesus Christ" and "Is Our Christianity Brave Enough," by Supt. Harley H. Gill; Monday, "Hell Fire," by Rev. Gail Cleland; Tuesday, "The Amazing Successes of Christianity in our Modern World," by Rev. Norman W. Pendleton; Wednesday, "Can a Man be a Christian Today?" by Rev. Thomas T. Giffen; Thursday, "The Robes of Christ," by Rev. O. W. S. McCall; Friday, "The Shining Face of Religion," by Rev. F. J. Van Horn, and Sunday, "A Workable Idea of God" and "What Is the World Looking For" by Supt. Harley H. Gill. Following the last Sunday, Supt. Gill expects to assist the pastor, Rev. J. J. Jones, in a campaign of personal evangelism.

The first Sunday in November, the Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church of Fresno, welcomed home its pastor, Rev. M. G. Papazian, after an absence of nearly two years. The last year he spent in Europe and the Near East. Since the pastor's landing in New York in September, speaking engagements outside of his regular church duties have kept him busy. He has addressed church assemblies, Conferences, Missionary Societies, Bible classes, brotherhoods, school teachers, luncheon clubs. Of these addresses 37 were to American audiences and 29 to Armenian.

The fiscal year of the church closed on December 31, without a deficit which was threatened and with $1.91 on the right side of the ledger.

The Young People of the San Jose church, under the direction of Rev. F. W. Morrison, will present on Easter night, Tolstoi's play, "What Men Live By."

The annual dinner given by the San Jose Church in honor of Drs. Vincent and Grace Wagner, of China, was held Friday night, February 27. Letters from the young missionaries were read. The building was tastefully decorated and the church expressed its appreciation of Dr. Wagner's father and mother, who were present. Rev. Benjamin Gould is the pastor.

The First Church of San Francisco is being supplied on Sunday mornings by Rev. Herman F. Swartz, D. D., president of the Pacific School of Religion, and in the evenings by Rev. Lawrence L. Cross, of the Northbrae Community Church. Rev. Harry L. Everett of the First Congregational Church of Jersey City, New Jersey, will be the guest of the church for April 12 and 19.

The Sacramento Church has decided to use the title Pioneer Congregational Church instead of the more lengthy one of Pioneer Memorial Church, First Congregational. The building will always be known as the Pioneer Memorial Church, but the new designation will combine the values of Pioneer and Congregational.

The Porterville Church is installing a new pipe organ. This will give the Porterville church a most commodious and beautiful plant and equipment. Rev. B. Dent Naylor is the pastor.

Recently about 70 members and friends of the Grass Valley Church scored a complete surprise on their pastor and wife, Rev. and Mrs. E. O. Chapel, when, under the guise of a church fellowship gathering, the occasion actually proved to be in celebration of their 30th wedding anniversary. Following a musical program and movies a "bread line" was formed which, to the strains of the wedding march, proceeded to the church dining hall. A fitting climax to the refreshments was the serving of an elaborately decorated wedding cake, followed by the presentation of flowers and a set of pearl handled butter spreaders to the guests of honor.

Lately the set of missionary slides "A Thrilling Tale of the Philippines" was used by the pastor and introduced by a veteran of the Spanish War who had stood guard over the famous General Aguinaldo.

Rev. C. C. Champlin, pastor at Pittsburg, reports a Sunday evening attendance of from 90 to 350 for the past several weeks. Special programs of a most interesting nature have been provided. One Sunday night was given over to people from Missouri, with a special welcoming committee, and Missouri people sitting in a reserved section. Another night an illustrated sermon entitled "The Drama of Life" was presented, with the senes and musical numbers appropriate to the various stages of childhood and youth: with a cradle scene, learning to pray, learning to walk, the first day at school, awakening of the spiritual life, and marriage.

About 160 members and friends of the Broadmoor Church gathered on Monday evening, February 9, for a splendid dinner and a hearty welcome to Rev. and Mrs. J. H. McCartney and their son Everett. A representative of every committee, organization and department of the church pledged enthusiastic cooperation. The occasion was honored by the presence of Rev. R. C. Day of Hayward, Rev. C. E. Robinson of San Lorenzo and the pastor of the local Presbyterian church. Superintendent Harley H. Gill brought the greetings of the Conference.

Rev. James T. Munton of Calaveras County was ill part of the month, so he was only able to preach nine sermons and make 52 pastoral calls. Two new members have been received into the church at Angel's Camp, and 19 young people are attending young people's meeting. Mr. Munton plans to organize a Sunday School at Copperopolis and to preach on alternate Sunday afternoons.

In the widely heralded contest for Sunday morning church attendance between the Alameda and San Jose churches, San Jose is thirty-five points ahead, which means that just thirty-five more persons have attended all of the Sunday morning services at San Jose than at Alameda since the contest began.

Rev. Robert James Allen of Trinity County, has suffered bereavement in the death of his mother in Seattle, making the trip to be with her for a few minutes before her death. He is recovering from the operation which was performed in January.

Dr. Noel J. Breed of Petaluma has instituted a series of sermons entitled "If I Could Preach Just Once," by laymen and women. On Thursday, February 12, a Martha Washington tea was held. The hostesses were in costume and the program, games and refreshments were all appropriate to the occasion. It is planned to have a tea once a month to give the ladies of the church an opportunity to become better acquainted and to interest those who have never taken an active part in the work. On February 15, a group of thirteen read Drinkwater's "Abraham Lincoln" at the evening service. No attempt was made to act, but the readers presented the play very impressively. There was a large attendance at the Ash Wednesday dinner, the annual introduction to the Lenten season. Dr. T. T. Giffen, of Plymouth Church, Oakland, was the speaker. Music was furnished by the High School Girls' Choir and the Men's Section.

The annual dinner and business meeting of the First Congregational Church of Redwood City, was recently held with over 200 in attendance. The clerk reported 76 accessions during the year. Two gas furnaces were installed, a new roof was put on, and all bills were paid. The Sunday School is growing, with a fine staff of 25 officers and teachers and an orchestra of 25 pieces. A new Intermediate Christian Endeavor Society has been organized. A choir of 25 voices rendered splendid music during the past year. The two women's organizations are the outstanding work of the church. Rev. Clarence H. Stevens is the pastor.

Rev. and Mrs. V. H. Yessayan were honored recently at St. Mark's Hall in Berkeley, at a dinner and reception. During the evening brief talks were given by Rev. G. M. Manavian of Fowler, Rev. H. A. Kartozian of San Francisco, Rev. A. Vartanian and Rev. B. Hagopian. On another occasion 25 members of the Christian Endeavor Society gave a surprise party to their pastor, and through Mr. Francis Tupenkian, their president, pledged cooperation on the increasing membership and activities in the church and society.

First Church, Fresno, continues its splendid progress under the leadership of Rev. Norman B. Henderson. The superintendent recently attended a most inspiring fellowship supper, which was attended by 160 or more very active and devoted people. Sunday morning congregations practically fill the church, and the evening forum ministers to a large constituency outside the membership.

At the annual meeting of the Saratoga Church, held in January, the Church burned the mortgage on its building. The last two thousand dollars on the debt was raised by special effort in November and December. Rev. Burton M. Palmer, D. D., is the pastor.

The 39th annual meting of the Mayflower Congregational Church of Pacific Grove was held recently with a full staff of officers and committees elected. The members report a most encouraging outlook under the leadership of Rev. John H. Hunter, the new pastor.

WOMEN'S FEDERATION NEWS

HAVE YOU HEARD THAT—

If our American Board students in Mission Schools were lined up ten abreast, it would take them eighteen hours to pass a reviewing stand?

Mrs. Gail Cleland is going to present Program Plans at her luncheon table at each monthly Federation meeting, and that any Association may send a delegate to secure these helpful suggestions together with literature on the subjects discussed?

Mrs. Price, our enthusiastic leader for young people, is already planning a Pageant for Asilomar next summer?

Our Sunday Schools are to send Christmas boxes to India this year, filled with toys, games, kindergarten and other school supplies? They are to fulfill the same purpose as the Treasure Chests for the Philippine Islands and the School Bags sent to Mexico. They must be ready for shipment May 15. Ask Mrs. Lenfestey, 39 San Mateo Road, Berkeley. Do it now.

The churches in the Humboldt Association more than doubled their gifts this year?

Paradise, in the Sacramento Association, with only 46 members, made improvements in their church, paying taxes, giving $250 toward the church debt and $25 on the budget.

Sonoma Association took a forward step this year?

In Central, cake sales painted a church?

Santa Clara reports great successes?

Saratoga burned its mortgage?

Santa Cruz installed a new organ?

San Mateo voted to build a $50,000 auditorium and that in nine months they have raised $9,000 towards it?

Bethany Mission Park Federated Church, S. F., has opened a distributing room where clothing is given to the unemployed, also that 1,805 articles made under Miss Hunt's supervision were given to children?

San Francisco First Church raised over $6,000 in 1930 by dinners, teas, and pledges and have recently bought new tables for their dining room?

Plymouth, Oakland, has carried out a very successful series of evening gatherings featuring cultural contacts with other races?

Niles, with but 16 members, renovated their parsonage and built a tennis court and a playground for their young people?

San Joaquin has made great strides the past year, increasing its attendance at the Association Meeting from 20 to 100?

A QUESTION FOR YOU—ARE YOU PUTTING ENOUGH PUNCH INTO YOUR MEETINGS?

Punch in Quantity

Juice of 12 oranges, juice of 12 lemons, 1 can crushed pineapple, 1 cup raspberry syrup. Make syrup by boiling for 10 minutes 5 cups sugar, and 1 pint water. Cool, add 3 gallons water. Pour over a block of ice, after adding other ingredients, also 1 cup Maraschino cherries and 2 bottles amber colored ginger ale. Serves 75 people. Serve at your Association Meetings and get better acquainted.

"A THANK OFFERING IN THE HAND OF EVERY WOMAN." This is the slogan our President, Mrs. Charles T. Tinker, has given the women of the Women's Federation of Northern California for the new year.

"FOLLOW YOUR LEADER"

Did you ever play "follow your leader" when you were a child? Of course you did, and didn't you just love it? Why you could not help it. Can't you remember how you raced through back yards, wriggled through narrow openings in hedges, jumped off high limbs of apple trees and had countless hair-raising and narrow escapes? And when **you** were the leader you selected the hardest, most difficult things for the others to attempt, "stunts," we call them today.

Well, let us play the game today, only in a little different way. Sorrow has come into some of your lives and you say you never want to play anything again. Well, perhaps you don't, but you **must.** We all have to be good sports these days. It's not fair to those who are left to get off in a corner and cry, and those who have left us for a little while would never want us to stop "playing the game." Perhaps we cannot play so boisterously, so wholeheartedly, as we used to and sadness may always lurk behind our smiles, but no one need suspect it as we shout "follow your leader," and how everyone loves to follow a brave leader, and the more difficult the trail, the better!

Then someone says "I have been disappointed in life, my hopes have been blasted and I won't play any more."

Another says "I have made such a mess of my life, mistakes and failures, I don't feel like playing anything. I just want to be let alone."

Bless your heart, we all have disappointments, very few things come out as we plan and mistakes—oh, poor, frail human creatures that we are—we make them every day. We would all like to crawl off into some corner, live over the past, when happiness reigned supreme and just let the world go on and by, but that is the coward's way. It is not playing square with ourselves or the other fellow.

Disappointments are nearly always **His** appointments and some day they will all be made clear. Our mistakes, even, if we but use **them** aright, should be but stepping stones to greater and higher spheres of usefulness.

"God's still in His heaven," believe it or not. It is winter now, but "If winter comes, shall spring be far behind?" And spring is the time when everything starts anew, shaking off the drowsiness and lethargy of winter and scattering joy everywhere with its warm sunshine, its bright-hued blossoms and cheery bird notes.

Could there be any better time for our women to call out "follow your leader," when the Women's Federation has just chosen a new president?

Mrs. Borden, who served us so ably and faithfully for two years, has passed on the gavel to Mrs. Tinker, who is no stranger to us. How well we remember her enthusiasm, as she visited our various churches and from her well stocked suit case, drew out article after article for our missionary schools, beautiful, serviceable, that she had miraculously evoked from just "nothing at all!" She is bringing all this enthusiasm and more of the same kind to her new task and we each one of us must rally to her aid to strengthen her hands for her great task, **our** task.

So get ready everybody. Don't let anyone get ahead of you, taking your place, or winning your reward. The very fact that your pathway has often been hard and strewn with thorns will make you all the more efficient to lead others. Get in line, then, quick, and not only shout "follow your leader" but really follow to the best of your various abilities.

"I am only one, but I am one,
I cannot do everything, but I can do something,
What I can do I ought to do and by the grace of God I will do."

HIGH LIGHTS FROM EVANSTON

In a most stimulating talk, Mrs. Ernest Evans of Mill Valley gave the women at their monthly Executive Board meeting her impressions of the mid-winter gathering in Chicago.

She found the women who were vitally interested in Home Missions were equally enthusiastic over the work in foreign fields.

The censensus of opinion was that never, since the war, have we been so thrown back upon the spiritual side of our task. The whole campaign for 1932 is stressing education and spiritual development.

The new Charter of the National Council of Church Women emphasizes, not denominational aggrandizement, but close personal contacts and the vital deepening of the spiritual life.

In closing, Mrs. Evans spoke of Mrs. King, the colored singer, who charmed everyone with her songs and referred especially to the one that touched every heart and whose words continued to ring in the ears of all who heard it:

" 'Taint my mudder, 'taint my fader,
But it's **me** standin' in de need of prayer,
'Taint my brudder, 'taint my sister,
But it's **me** standin' in de need of prayer."

FACING PROBLEMS IN MERZIFOUN—1931

Having had a New Year's vacation, the girls have begun classes again in the Merzifoun Girls' School, Turkey. This year the enrollment is small because of difficult economic conditions in Turkey. There have also been problems to solve; for example, there was quite a struggle with the Turkish teachers over the salary question. But a talk with friendly civil and school officials straightened that out.

Much time and thought are going into the revision of the school program. During the next vacation, Miss Odell and Miss Colmyer intend taking a trip to Ankara (Angora) to hold a conference on the school curriculum with the educational officials. Certain subjects like typewriting and bookkeeping will be included in the program, for they have been found to be most useful to the girls.

The school stretches out a friendly hand to the nearby villages. Many trips are taken in order to call in the homes of the people. Lately one of the oldest pupils has asked permission to go, when the school term is over, and stay in the poorest village. If her parents are willing and the school can plan it, some of the staff and the girl will take tents and camp in the village, in order to really make friends with the people.

At the annual meeting of North Church, Berkeley, held January 7, 1931, the treasurer, Mrs. H. M. Smitten, had the pleasure of burning the note against the church. The efforts of the pastor, Rev. Walter Byron Williams, and of the loyal members and friends of the church, have made it possible for North Church to face the new year free of debt.

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Better investigate.
I thank you. H. H. G.**

Age	Rate	Age	Rate
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62	6.1	71	7.2
63	6.2	72	7.4
64	6.3	73	7.6
65	6.4	74	7.8
66	6.5	75	8.0
67	6.6	76	8.3
68	6.8	77	8.5
69	6.9	78	8.8
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